

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A marketing support system for allowing a supplier, which ~~manufacturers~~ manufactures and sells to at least one sales agency a mechanical component having a rolling element and a sliding bearing, to support the at least one sales agency selling said mechanical component to a purchaser, ~~wherein~~ comprising:

a communication device of the supplier ~~is~~-connected to an open network and ~~comprises~~ comprising:

technical information service means for providing technical information required to the purchaser for enabling the purchaser to select said mechanical component; and

sales agency introduction means for introducing the at least one sales agency selling said mechanical component to the purchaser, and

a communication device of the at least one sales agency ~~is~~-connected to the open network and ~~comprises~~ comprising:

order processing means for taking an order from the purchaser to purchase the mechanical component and for electronically processing the purchase order, and ~~wherein~~

selection and purchasing means for the purchaser to access ~~accesses~~ the communication device of the supplier over the open network and to select and purchase the mechanical component from one of the at least one sales agency.

2. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, wherein the selection and purchasing means allow the purchaser to select~~selects~~ a responsible sales agency from the at least one sales agency to process the purchase order.

3. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, wherein the selection and purchasing means allow the supplier to select~~selects~~ a responsible sales agency from the at least one sales agency to process the purchase order.

4. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 3, wherein the communication device of the supplier ~~is provided with~~ comprises means for receiving an inquiry for the mechanical component from the purchaser, wherein contents of the inquiry are distributed over the open network and thereafter consigned to an appropriate sales agency to be the responsible sales agency from the at least one sales agency determined in accordance with a region and a product number, and the selection and purchasing means allow the appropriate sales agency to process~~processes~~ the purchase order.

5. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, wherein said technical information service means ~~is provided with~~ comprises question reply means for receiving a technical question from the purchaser and allowing a responsible engineer of the supplier to send a reply to the question back to the purchaser.

6. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, wherein said sales agency introduction

means ~~displays~~ comprises a display of a sales agency information list ~~which~~ that provides information of the at least one sales agency including name, the mechanical component, an address of each sales agency, and contact information.

7. (Original) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1; wherein the mechanical component is delivered after payment has been made.

8. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising means for issuing an ID is issued for the inquiry from for the purchaser when credit can be provided for the purchaser in accordance with background checks on the purchaser and means for accepting the order from the purchaser is accepted in accordance with the ID.

9. (Currently Amended) The marketing support system for a mechanical component according to claim 1, further comprising means for registering wherein the inquiry from the purchaser order is registered to a customer database and an order potential database.